Flyers Land Grant After Archie Takes

STEVE MILLER
Sports Editor

Domination. Dayton's brand new men's basketball coach Anthony Grant did not mince words at his introductory press conference Saturday afternoon.

“When I met with the team today, I told them my vision,” Grant said. “To dominate, continue to play for championships, and to dominate in the A-10.”

A week before, Flyer Nation ached at the uncertain future of UD men's basketball when news broke that Archie Miller had re-signed to take the head coaching position at Indiana University.

“Some people were asking whether the sun would come up again,” said University President Eric Spina at the press conference. “It has, seven times. The sun today is shining brighter than ever.”

Now officially under new leadership, the Flyers will turn their attention to building something new, using the foundation that Miller, his staff and his players laid since 2011.

“I congratulate Coach Miller and his staff for doing an outstanding job here,” Grant said.

“From us to not only meet that standard but to go ahead and excel, and go beyond that, I truly believe that this place is special.”

Miller, the 2017 Atlantic 10 Coach of the Year, won 139 games in his six seasons as head coach of the Flyers, including at least 24 in each of the past four seasons. In those four seasons, the team reached the NCAA Tournament each year, including a run to the Elite Eight in 2014 and two tournament victories in 2015. In 2016 and 2017, the Flyers won the Atlantic 10 regular season title. Dayton never had a losing season under his leadership.

Miller's success made his departure for a power conference school foreseeable, but no less disappointing for the Flyer faithful.

“I wasn't necessarily surprised, I was more so surprised that it happened so soon...given the circumstances of this season,” said Brandon Payne, a junior electrical engineering major and a member of the UD cheerleading squad.

“We won the A-10 regular season championship and had a great recruiting class coming in. It was set up to be a well-established program for a few more years.”

After Miller's decision, there was no time for nostalgia in Dayton's athletic department.

“We like Archie, and we're glad Archie was our coach for the last six years, and we're certainly sad to see him go,” said Vice President and Director of Athletics Neil Sullivan at a press conference hours after the news broke.

“But at the end of the day the University of Dayton has to make the right decisions, which was to build the program into something bigger than just the team, bigger than the coach and bigger than the university.”

Sullivan elaborated on the decision to hire Grant.

“In our meetings he delivered a clear and convincing message about long-term success, and how bad he wants to be here and how badly he wants to succeed not just in the short-term, but in the long-term, which is very important to us,” he said. “Our meetings focused on what the future would hold around graduating student athletes, in a meaningful way. Not just that they leave here with a degree, but they leave here with a meaningful degree, better people than when they came in.”

In a major coaching transition like this, there is always doubt and speculation as to whether the current players will buy into the new coach or look to transfer. Rising junior forward Ryan Mikesell hinted towards the former.

“We’re grateful for [Archie Miller], but we’re also excited,” he said. “The leadership is going to be different, but we think Coach Grant will bring the same success here and build off the tradition we have today and go out and win the A-10 championship and advance in the NCAA Tournament.”

A point of concern is the status of Miller's recruiting class, set to enter UD in the fall.

Guard McKinley Wright, the most coveted recruit of the class, was the center of much speculation following Miller's decision.

But Miller himself came out and spoke on the subject.

“McKinley is obviously signed with Dayton and he’s a fantastic player,” Miller said last Tuesday on the Dan Dakich show. “I hope he goes to Dayton. He went to Dayton for the right reasons. And I’ll probably leave it at that because my job isn’t to recruit him anywhere else.”

The Flyers are in a position to succeed under him just as well as they could under the previous NCAA job.

Grant’s first, and most important, task is to prevent transfers. It means retaining as many players as possible (assistant coach or look to transfer. Rising seniors. And I’ll probably leave it at that because my job isn’t to recruit him anywhere else.”

When the dust settles, regardless of the players Grant will actually coach here at Dayton, his focus is constant.

“This program is about this community, about the city of Dayton, it’s about you guys,” he said, speaking to the men’s basketball players in attendance. “And I’m here to make sure that we continue to elevate this program.”

Story continued on pg. 4

Goodbye Archie

ANDREW KRAMER
Junior Exercise Physiology

There is a saying, “timing is everything.” For the more tenured Flyer fan, there were visible signs the time was right for the Archie’s departure. When a broadcaster opined that Archie would not leave for NC State, he said, “It is not a top three job in the conference. If he leaves, he should leave for a top three job in a power conference.” So when Tom Crean was fired, I got nervous. When UD fell to the Shockers, Archie had seen the most winning class through to the end, the bittersweet end. He could have come back and started anew with another talented group, but I think we all know how frustrating freshmen can be—especially for Archie. As long as Dayton remains in the Atlantic 10 with games like “at Fordham” on their schedule, Dayton will be a stepping stone, albeit an attractive one, for coaches as talented, and those less talented (I see you, Brian Gregory) to lift off to power conferences.

So now what? Well, to be honest, it looks grim. This new class—Naziah Carter, McKinnie Wright, Jordan Pierre, Jordan Davis, Matej Svoboda, added with Kostas Ametostoloumpis, has the potential to bring the program to deep into the dance not just in the future, but sooner than most would think. But it seems unlikely that they will all arrive in the Gem City. Already rumors swirl about Wright, and that he waited for a new home. Remember, when we hired Archie, the two recruits committed to Brian Gregory, fresh off a first round NIT exit, bolted. What will happen with our new hire?

That brings us to the next front man for the Flyers. Anthony Grant. To be honest, he was a safe hire. The alumni in sweaters will remember him fondly from his playing days, and young fans and recruits will be intrigued by his connection to the Flyers, his playing days, and preventing transfers. It means retaining as much of the current staff as possible (assistant coaches Kevin Kuwik, Tom Ostrom and Allen Griffin), and convincing the new recruits they can succeed under him just as well as they could have under Archie. These are all difficult tasks, and how well Grant does could be indicative of his ultimate legacy at UD.

In the end though, we are reminded of UD’s place in the basketball world. Dayton is a city with tremendous basketball knowledge and fervor for its players. A place steeped in history. A place recognized as a hotspot for college basketball. And, unfortunately, a place where, if all goes right, we will be searching for another coach in 5 years. Grant us peace…
WHY BECOME A MARIANIST?

While working on a degree in Catholic school leadership, Sister Nicole Trahan, FMI, was drawn to the Marianists. “Their mutuality and collaborative spirit fit with my values and way of looking at the world,” she says. Her vocation has given her “a life filled with joy.”

Sister Nicole serves at Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School in Dayton, Ohio, and is national vocations director for the Marianist Sisters.

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twendorf@sm-usa.org
Sr. Nicole Trahan, FMI
ntrahan@gmail.com

BROTHERS – PRIESTS – SISTERS
marianist.com
Flyers react to Archie leaving for Indiana

A message from Chief Chatman:

Public Safety is pleased to announce that the director of police operations/police major position, vacated by the retirement of Larry Dickey has been filled. Savalas Kidd has accepted the position and will begin his tenure with the University of March 27. Savalas is currently the Assistant Special Agent in Charge with the Bureau of Criminal Investigations where he oversees Crimes Against Children, Cyber Crimes, Human Trafficking, Technical Operations, Forensic Accountants and Polygraph units for all 88 counties in Ohio. Savalas has developed course content for Butler Technological Public Safety Center and has taught for the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. Additionally, Savalas is a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command program.

Interested in writing photography, editing or graphic design?

Join Flyer News!

Email ghagan1@udayton.edu for more information
ARCHIE TAKES OFF (continued from page 1)

"I want to start by saying to all of Flyer Na-
tion, that this was a hard decision for my family
and [me]," Archie Miller wrote in a statement
a day after it was announced he was leaving the
University of Dayton to take over as head
couch of Indiana University's men's basketball
team. "We have been embraced and supported
by you every day since arriving in Dayton six
years ago." News broke in the early afternoon
of Sat., March 25, that Miller had accepted the
job at Indiana, making $3.35 million per year,
roughly three times what he made at Dayton.

For the leadership in Dayton's athletic depart-
ment, though, there was no time for nostalgia.
"We like Archie, and we're glad Archie was
our coach for the last six years, and we're cer-
tainly sad to see him go," said Vice President
and Director of Athletics Neil Sullivan at a
press conference hours after the news broke.

"At the end of the day the University of
Dayton has been to I think 18 NCAA Tour-
naments, been there under many coaches, and
plan to be there again."

With barely any time to come to grips with
this new reality, the conversation turned to the
search for a new coach.

"There's benefits to being sooner rather
than later, obviously, but...you [have] to get it
right," Sullivan said on Saturday. "So we will be
deliberate, we will be intentional and we will be
very methodical to make sure we have someone
that represents this University in the right way."

The short list for candidates was initially
very transparent with me."

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that represents this University in the right way.

"2017 is different than 2011," Sullivan said,
referring to the year Brian Gregory departed
for Georgia Tech, opening the job for Miller.

"I've met with the team, I've met with the
players," Sullivan said, after explaining that he
was effectively running the men's basketball
program until a new coach is hired. He did not
elaborate on any of the current players' reac-
tions to Miller's decision.

However, rising redshirt junior Josh Cun-
ningham, who played his first season for UD
this year after transferring from Bradley Univer-
sity, tweeted "Again!!!" after Miller announced
his decision. Cunningham transferred after
Bradley's coach departed following his fresh-
man season.

"It's no secret that Archie has been a highly
sought-after coach. I think that's a testament to
what we do here, it's a testament to him," said
Sullivan. "Archie, throughout this process, was
very transparent with me."

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students.

5 Bedroom house: 2 Full Bath-
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Nice Porches. 2 car garage, pri-
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JIMMY’S STUDENT RENT-
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without doubling up in a room.
The homes are completely fur-
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air, wi-fi, cable, washer, dryer,
stove, refrigerator, microwave
and have large closets. JIMMY’S
STUDENT RENTALS has been
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neighborhood for over (30)
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HOW DOES ARCHIE MILLER LEAVING UD FOR INDIANA SIT WITH YOU?

"I was actually not that prepared for him to
leave. I feel like it was one of those things that
was just going to become a staple at UD was just,
Archie Miller was going to be the men's basketball coach."

Victoria Borddorf
Masters in Human Services

"The way this community likes Day-
ton basketball, I think Archie
Miller helped it but I don't think that him
leaving will drop the attendance."

Jay O'Donnell
Anthropology

"Obviously it's going to be sad to
not have him here with us, he's
such an amazing coach."

Sarah Rieker
Psychology

"Like losing four seniors, and
the team kind of going on a
downward spiral, and Indiana is
probably  for a star."

Madi Kondritz
Sociology & Criminal Justice

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All utilities & High speed inter-
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Hugh basements $2,700 per person per semester. Summer is negotiable.
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LIVE AND STUDY IN LUXURY.
Óscar Romero Symposium confronts human rights issues

JULIA HALL
Online Editor

On March 28, a seemingly typical Tuesday, with campus bustling along at a normal pace, the Chapel bells marked a divergence of the usual. The time: 1:30 p.m. The cause of the pause: The University of Dayton Human Rights Commission bestowed The Pastoral Land Commission of the Brazilian National Bishops' Conference with The Blessed Óscar Romero Human Rights Award and hosted a symposium in Romero’s honor. This award, first presented in 2000, commemorates the death of Blessed Óscar Romero, an archbishop of San Salvador who was killed saying mass in March 1980. His murder is correlated to his active resistance to military abuses in Latin America, particularly to those that violated human rights.

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News flash: Examining the latest breaking news

SEAN NEWHOUSE
Staff Writer

The past few weeks, the 24 hour news cycle has been inundated with near constant breaking news alerts. This article aims to provide a comprehensive description of three recent and important news stories that, due to the fast pace nature of news recently, may have been overlooked.

Laptop Ban
On March 21, the U.S. announced that it was putting new travel restrictions on flights coming from 10 North African and Middle Eastern airports. It affects eight countries in the region. The new regulation bans any electronic device larger than a smartphone (laptop, tablet etc.) from being carried onto a plane’s cabin. Instead, they must be stored in checked luggage.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced that the restriction were put in place after intelligence reports confirmed that terrorist organizations from the region had plans to use the now restricted devices as weapons, such as by “smuggling explosive devices…”

The United Kingdom has announced a similar security measure. This all comes in conjunction with President Trump’s latest executive order which, “(imposes) a temporary pause on the entry of nationals from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Syria, and Yemen.” However, this order was halted on March 15 by Hawaii federal judge Derrick Watson, hours before the executive order was to take effect. In his court order, Watson wrote of the executive order, “The illogic of the Government’s contentions is palpable.”

London Terrorist Attack
On March 22, Khalid Masood, identified as the assailant by the police, attacked pedestrians on Westminster Bridge using an SUV before stabbing and killing a police officer outside of Parliament and near landmarks such as Big Ben and the London Eye. Masood was native-born to England. He was killed at the scene.

The New York Times reported that five people had died from the attack and about forty were injured. The victims are diverse coming from countries such as South Korea, Romania, Greece and a man from Utah. Masood had a criminal record but no previous connections to terrorism. London police reported that, “Masood was not the subject of any current investigations, and there was no prior intelligence about his intent to mount a terrorist attack.” However, British Prime Minister Theresa May stated that MI5 investigated Masood “in relation to concerns about violent extremism.”

As part of a counterterrorism operation, eight people across six properties were arrested in connection to the attack. The Islamic State claimed that they were responsible for the attack, but the British government has not verified that claim.

The United Kingdom also made headlines recently with the enactment of Article 50, which officially begins the United Kingdom’s exit from the European Union (“Brexit”). Prime Minister Theresa May considered the event “…an historic moment from which there can be no turning back.”

The UK and the EU now have two years to formalize a new trade deal. The BBC reported that some officials on both sides have concerns that if a new trade relationship isn’t established in two years, there will be a weakening of European security cooperation.

Trump and Russia
The House and Senate Intelligence Committees have been investigating whether or not there were any scandalous or improper relations between the Trump campaign and Russia during the years, there will be a weakening of European security cooperation.

Trump’s twitter accusation that Obama “wiretapped” him. The media almost immediately associated this statement with Trump’s twitter accusation that Obama “wined up” him.

Following this announcement, Nunes briefed the White House on his findings, bypassing his fellow committee members. This, paired with the fact that he has yet to reveal where he received this information, led The Washington Post to consider this a major breach of protocol and possibly “engineered to help the White House.”

The following Monday, top Democrats including Sen. Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Rep. Adam Schiff (D-California) (the ranking Democratic member on the House Intelligence Committee) announced that they wanted Nunes to step down because of his actions.

There is a lot of uncertainty in the world right now. Nevertheless, countless individuals have shown that they can rise above present-day fears and conflicts. Muslim women (pictured below) exemplified this four days after the London terrorist attack by standing not only in solidarity with the victims of the attack, but also as a symbol of peace and unity.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2017 STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS NOMINEES

The Leadership Awards recognizes the outstanding contributions and commitment to values, faith, and inclusivity of UD student leaders, organizations, and advisers who are making an impact on campus. All nominees will be recognized and the award winners will be announced during the Student Leadership Awards Ceremony, which will be held on Friday, April 21, 2017, at 7pm in the Kennedy Union Ballroom, where Dr. Mary Mahoney-O’Neil will be our guest speaker. The Office of Student Leadership Programs and the Division Student Development in partnership with Campus Ministry and Student Employment sponsors the Student Leadership Awards.

ORGANIZATION AWARDS
Association for Young Children
Beta Beta Beta
Campus Activities Board
Christmas on Campus
Emergency Medical Services
Flyer Consulting
National Society of Black Engineers
Indian Student Association
Marketing Club
Society of Women Engineers
St. Vincent de Paul
Student Government Association
Sustainability Club
Theta Phi Alpha
Women in Business
Zeta Tau Alpha

STUDENT AWARDS
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Robert Alexander
Jonathan Allen
Marisa Barron
Madalyn Beban
Kayla Berry
Casey Boland
Bryan Borodokin
Katherine Brossart
Morgan Bukowek
Racanne Busch
Praneethe Chedepudi
Logan Cobbs
Blake Coury
Ellen Coyne
Walton Degrift
Jess DeGroot
Kenton Dickson
Anthony Diggs
Brooke Diviak
Devon Dubiel
Madeline Ecklund
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Amanda Fawcett
Nicholas Feltes
Thomas Ferrall
Ellen Hall
Emily Haynes
Theresa Iseman
Kaleigh Juriseck
Claudia Labrador
December Lee
Ziping Lyu
Sean Mannion
Nathan Mansour
Chloe Massie-Costales
Colleen McDaniel
Miranda Melone
Alexis Miles
Kayla Mitchell
Erin Murphy
Lauren Murray
Marisa Napoli
Eromogbai Omijuango
Paola Ortiz
Allyson Pacifico
Danielle Patton
Erin Peiffer
Bradley Petrella
Dante Pazzitti
Elizabeth Pleiman
Rachel Polihman
Chris Reyes
Bree Richards
Eduardo Rive Lockwood
Leena Sabagh
Hind Salih
Abby Saurine
Margaret Schaller
Brett Slaughenhaupt
Elisabeth Spector
Cory Stufelbeam
Brendan Sweetman
Sai Teja Thapitali
Tyler Vickery
Daniele Villhard
Logan Wacker
Peter Wallace
Sarah Whitehouse
Anna Wilhelm
Bryan Wolf
Jada Woods
Maggie Yocum
Chris Reyes
Bree Richards
Eduardo Rive Lockwood
Leena Sabagh
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Abby Saurine
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Hind Salih
Abby Saurine
Margaret Schaller
Brett Slaughenhaupt
Elisabeth Spector
**The Women of 306 Kiefaber**

Sam Kasmer, Mary Grace Brandt, Lizzie McCabe, Ellen Saracina, Ellie Schuck and dog Bingo. Christian Cubacub/Multimedia Editor.

It was all mostly freshmen and sophomores, but I stayed in class for the whole time because I was too embarrassed to be like, “I’m a senior. This is my major,” and leave. I missed my whole first class because I was in Sociology 101. I went up to my teacher after class and he was like, “What are you doing here?” and I was like, “I don’t know.” He was very confused. Lizzie McCabe missed finals once. She swung her legs over the side of her bed, fell asleep, and woke up with her legs hanging over the side of the bed… and missed class.

SK: Our popcorn parties!
MGB: We end up coming back from going out, and we end up having popcorn when we come back.
SK: We make this giant thing of popcorn.
MGB: We just try everything once. And learn to like dogs. Be open. Oh! Life motto: “Everything is fine.”

Ellie: Make time for your friends.
SK: You don’t remember the grades you get on your tests or papers. You don’t remember any of that. You just remember the fun things you did.
SK: You don’t remember the grades you get on your tests or papers. You don’t remember any of that. You just remember the fun things you did.

**FN: What advice do you have for underclassmen?**
SK: Live it up!
Ellie: Make time for your friends.
SK: You don’t remember the grades you get on your tests or papers. You don’t remember any of that. You just remember the fun things you did.
MGB: Say “yes.”
Ellie: I was thinking that, too! I think this year I’ve just been saying yes… maybe to too many things, but sometimes you need more “yes” to fun things.
MGB: Just try everything once. And learn to like dogs. Be open. Oh! Life motto: “Everything is fine.”

**SK:** Lizzie McCabe has an aid dog-in training named Bingo.

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**ROSE RUCOBA**

Porch Correspondent

**FN: How did you all meet?**
Mary Grace Brandt: Lizzie and I met in preschool. Lizzie liked my Polly Pockets and we haven’t been able to get rid of each other since!
Ellen Saracina: I knew Mary Grace and Lizzie from freshman year and then Sam knew them too.
SK: Yeah. Me and MG were on the same floor and then I met Lizzie through MG.
We all lived in Stewart.
Ellie Schuck: And then I got thrown into the mix junior year. We were all in two different housing groups that got smashed together for an 8-person house.
Ellen: Then we kept her!

**FN: If you could give everyone in your house a superlative, what would it be?**
Ellie: Ellen is the Most Effortlessly Edgy! She’s also Most Likely to Have Goldfish.
Lizzie McCabe: They get everywhere! In her backpack… in her bed…
SK: I think Lizzie is Best Dressed. Or Most Likely to Not Be on Time.
Ellie: Sam is Most Likely to Punch You If You Don’t Go Out.
MGB: Sam is Most Likely to… she’s like, “I’m a Mama Bear.”
SK: MG, you’re an alpaca.
Ellie: And also reality TV shows.
Ellen: This one is getting checked off, anyway. She’s Most Likely to Be Making Up in Her Room.
LM: Ellie is Most Likely to Be Up Early. Because she’s Most Likely to Be Humming or Singing.
Ellie: She’s Most Likely to Rally My-… To Be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
Ellen: Mary Grace is Most Likely to Be in a Good Mood… To Be Up Early.
MGB: Most Likely to Make the Coffee— Sam.
SK: Strong coffee.
Ellie: OK, new superlative: Sam is Most Likely to Work Hard, Play Hard.
Ellen: Sam is Most Likely to be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
LM: Ellie is Most Likely to Be Making Up Product Jingles.
Ellie: And also reality TV shows.
Ellen: Mary Grace is Most Likely to Be Singing in the Shower.
MGB: Sam is Most Likely to Rally Us.
SK: I like that better than the punching one. I think I’m Most Likely to Rally Myself and All of You.
Ellie: Bingo* is Most Likely to Pee on the Carpet.
SK: Bingo is Most Likely to Melt Hearts.

**FN: What is your spirit animal and why?**
SK: I am a dragonfly because I meditate a lot. I am a dragonfly because I meditate a lot.
SK: Bingo is Most Likely to Melt Hearts.
MGB: Most Likely to Pee on the Carpet.
Ellen: Bingo* is Most Likely to Pee on the Carpet.
Ellie: And also reality TV shows.

**FN: What is your most embarrassing accident with a teacher I’d already had.**
Ellen: I was thinking that, too! I think this year I’ve just been saying yes… maybe to too many things, but sometimes you need more “yes” to fun things.
MGB: Just try everything once. And learn to like dogs. Be open. Oh! Life motto: “Everything is fine.”

**SK: Strong coffee.**
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Ellen: Sam is Most Likely to be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
LM: Ellie is Most Likely to Be Making Up Product Jingles.
Ellie: And also reality TV shows.
Ellen: Mary Grace is Most Likely to Be in a Good Mood… To Be Humming or Singing.
Ellie: She’s Most Likely to Rally My-… To Be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
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Ellie: She’s Most Likely to Rally My-… To Be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
Ellen: Mary Grace is Most Likely to Be in a Good Mood… To Be Humming or Singing.

**FN: What is on your bucket list?**
LM: The cliff… or the ledges. Cliff jumping. We want to go cliff jumping. Some of us will take pictures.
SK: We want to finish our song. We’re writing a roommate song and it’s really funny.
Ellie: This one is getting checked off, anyway. She’s Most Likely to Be Making Up in Her Room.
LM: Ellie is Most Likely to Be Up Early. Because she’s Most Likely to Be Humming or Singing.
Ellie: She’s Most Likely to Rally My-… To Be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
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**SK: I like that better than the punching one. I think I’m Most Likely to Rally Myself and All of You.**
Ellie: Bingo* is Most Likely to Pee on the Carpet.
SK: Bingo is Most Likely to Melt Hearts.

**SK: I think I’m a dolphin. Sam called me that better than the punching one. I think I’m Most Likely to Rally Myself and All of You.**
Ellie: Bingo* is Most Likely to Pee on the Carpet.
SK: Bingo is Most Likely to Melt Hearts.

**SK: Strong coffee.**
Ellie: OK, new superlative: Sam is Most Likely to Work Hard, Play Hard.
Ellen: Sam is Most Likely to be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
LM: Ellie is Most Likely to Be Making Up Product Jingles.
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Ellie: She’s Most Likely to Rally My-… To Be Doing Yoga in Her Room.
Ellen: Mary Grace is Most Likely to Be in a Good Mood… To Be Humming or Singing.

**SK: I think I’m a dolphin. Sam called me**
JACLYN MARTIN
Junior, English

Growing up in Toledo, Ohio amongst a family of creative-minded people, senior Mara Kalinoski always knew she wanted to be a writer.

“I learned to read when I was three, and then I started writing when I was in second grade and I instantly knew that it was my lifelong passion,” Kalinoski said. That same passion that caused Kalinoski to write her first book in second grade (a thirty page fiction piece she wrote and illustrated herself) and to later win a statewide writing competition, shines through her work even now.

Kalinoski, who is pursuing a double major in English and psychology, is not one to shy away from challenges. Between her work as a staff member of the Orpheus team and a PAVE educator, Kalinoski still finds time to maintain her own blog where she publishes much of her own work. These pieces offer a wide range of styles from short stories to poetry to nonfiction essays. Kalinoski’s pieces cover real-world issues in an honest, emotional way that invites her readers to forge an even deeper connection with the piece.

Like most writers, Kalinoski gets inspiration for her work from a variety of sources. Whether it is the book that she is reading, a random stranger walking down the street or her own life experiences, Kalinoski seems to find writing material in everything around her.

“If I am walking outside and I see something cool, I just instantly think of a story in my head and I want to expand on it, or I will write a description piece on it... I don’t know, everyday things really mean a lot because you can shape them into anything you want,” Kalinoski said.

In addition to finding her subject material from anything and everything around her, Kalinoski’s style of writing is heavily influenced by the works she reads from other authors.

“When I read a lot of Hemingway I kind of get like cleaner and more concise sentences, and then when I read other types of novels I get really into flowery language or really into dialogue,” Kalinoski said. This practice provides Kalinoski with the ability to form an emotional connection with the readers using a multitude of writing techniques.

To Kalinoski, forming an emotional bond with the reader is one of the most important parts.

“I mean, I know it sounds cliché, but just making people feel something is really the ultimate goal,” Kalinoski said. That goal is constantly present in Kalinoski’s writing, where her desire to make people feel connected to something is often a primary theme.

That love of human connection extends beyond Kalinoski’s writing and into her social life through the open mic night she hosts once a month with her roommates in their apartment on ArtStreet. At “Pinot and Poetry,” fellow UD students can spend their Friday or Saturday night listening to and performing their own poetry, music, stand-up, or short pieces of fiction and nonfiction writing.

Most recently, Kalinoski has begun to collaborate with a friend of hers on a book consisting of a collection of her writing accompanied by her friend’s illustrations. She hopes that they’ll be able to self-publish the work soon. For her, the main goal of the book is to provide her, along with her friends and family, with a concrete sample of her work.

Although a large portion of Kalinoski’s work in college has focused on her own writing ability, she hopes to one-day work in the publishing industry as an editor, ideally in a publishing house. Like most students, Kalinoski’s main career goal is to be able to pay her bills in the field that she loves, and her work in the Write Place makes her confident in her ability to do so.

However, she has no plans to give up on her childhood dream of being a writer, but instead, hopes that her career as an editor will provide her with the ability to spend her free time creating and publishing her own works of literature.

MEET OUR CARTOONIST: AMBER DEL VENTO

Year: Junior
Major: Adolescent to Young Adult Education

How long you’ve been drawing cartoons: I actually started writing comics in third grade, but I didn’t start working on them on a regular basis until around high school.

Subject of your cartoons: For comic strips, such as the ones I submit for the student newspaper, I generally draw inspiration from the things I encounter in my everyday life such as school and pop culture. I also draw longer, more narrative stories. I’ve been working on one for the past two years which follows the adventures of a young boy and his pet octopus, that I hope to turn into a children’s graphic novel if I ever get the chance to complete it.

What you love most about drawing cartoons: I’ve always loved drawing and storytelling, so drawing comics is a way of combining both of these passions. I like how the combination of visuals and text allows for different ideas to be communicated than just pictures or words alone.
Head in the Sand is the newest offering of the Dayton music scene, an intriguing blend of jazz and hip hop by a duo of talented, long-time musicians. Senior Ian Mortensen plays drums, and first-year Will Harper plays piano and bass. Both members of the band provide vocals. The men met in the Dayton Jazz Ensemble where they instantly clicked and decided to form a group.

"The men of Head in the Sand are high energy, fast-talking, constantly hopping from topic to topic. This sense of intensity translates neatly to their music, which is filled with a similar energy. Their music history knowledge seemed practically inexhaustible as they chatted about a variety of musicians that inspire them. Harper and Mortensen cited many artists from different eras and genres, including Robert Glasper, Herbie Hancock, Leon Russell, Freddie Mercury, the Black Keys and Clyde Stubblefield.

"It's not a collection of stories, it's a whole novel," Mortensen said.

Unlike some other bands, there wasn't really a deep and meaningful reason for their name, Head in the Sand. "I saw an ostrich at the zoo and it put its head in the sand," Harper shrugged.

Mortensen suggested that the name reflects the idea of willful ignorance, a theme they explore in their satirical party anthem, "In the Ghetto."

They released their tune in March, right before St. Patrick's Day, in order for students to be able to listen to a song that both celebrated UD and will be releasing their upcoming demos around October of this year. You can find their music on Soundcloud. Their song "In The Ghetto" can be found on any music streaming platform.

"As a performer, there's nothing that comes next to playing the music you enjoy and having people enjoy it as well," Harper said. "Getting that validation and reinforcement, there's nothing like it."

"Especially when you play music that has room for improvisation," Mortensen added. "Communication between musicians and seeing where it can go."

The duo are passionate about the history and influence of music, especially as it still continues to bleed into the music we hear today. They believe that the way music influences every facet of life is limitless.

"John Lennon got a lot of crap because he talked about how the Beatles' music was more popular than Jesus, but he wasn't necessarily wrong, in that they had monumental influence on the entire world," Harper said.

Mortensen also mentioned times outside of the oft-cited Civil Rights Era, such as the Civil War, when slaves sang spirituals and used codes to maintain their culture in the face of their torture. He spoke about present-day Black Lives Matter anthems, as well as international turmoil in the 90s, when musicians easily bridged gaps between peoples where politicians consistently tried and failed.

"Music is a universal language," Harper said. "If it feels good, it feels good. There's this huge, deep-rooted science of tone and timbre and tempo that influence this, and usually people have no idea about that science, but they still understand it."

"You know when music is good when it's timeless," Mortensen said. "And it doesn't matter if it's from 2002 or it's classic oldies."

The unique blend of jazz, hip hop, and rock makes their sound immediately interesting and attention-grabbing, even without taking into consideration the immense talent that both of the members possess. Jazz and hip hop are two strains of music that are rich tapestries, both in terms of history and sound. Harper and Mortensen can both sing and rap, and when writing their songs they make sure to include the best qualities from both of their influencing genres. The result is something fresh and new, while still maintaining the classic vibes of jazz and hip hop.

Head in the Sand has performed at Battle of the Bands, a Sustainability Club fundraiser and at various open mic nights in the student neighborhood. They are adept at connecting with their audiences, who find an impressible spirit in their music.

"The best relationships I've had with other people in my life have been because of music," Mortensen said. Music is an instinctive, visceral outlet for passion, where people can connect whether they are performing, producing, writing, or simply listening and enjoying.

Head in the Sand is currently recording and will be releasing their upcoming demos around October of this year. You can find their music on Soundcloud. Their song "In The Ghetto" can be found on any music streaming platform.
Roesch offers Kanopy streaming service, Criterion Film Collection

BRETT SLAUGHENHAUPT
Movie Columnist

In America’s present state, the arts are under siege. What has historically been realized as a vital aspect of our nation’s culture is now being denounced as a luxury, a waste of money that can be better spent on walls. How quickly our government seems to have moved from having a direct relationship, like when the FSA funded artists to document the Great Depression or when major Hollywood directors enlisted to help with WWII efforts, to a direct clash between “overrated actresses” and our president. It is a precarious time, indeed.

American and International film can give us a creative look into our past and present. Not only does this grant us a better look into how our society has shifted through time, but it also contextualizes the present world around us. At the University of Dayton, we are given the chance to do so through Roesch Library’s subscription to the streaming service Kanopy.

Kanopy is a streaming service created in 2008 for educational institutions. It offers over 26,000 titles to watch that “range from documentaries, indie and foreign films, must-see classics and blockbuster movies” and “encourages [their] users to challenge themselves to watch films outside of their comfort area.” Further broken down, the site offers many different categories of films that give light to experiences one would not normally find on other sites such as Netflix or Hulu - categories like:

- "Transgender Visibility" - From the hit indie film “Tomboy” to the documentary “The Salt Mines,” where else can you find a list of 62 films that cover the trans* experience?
- "Banned! Films From Countries in the U.S. Travel Ban" - "This Is Not A Film" was shot on an iPhone and shipped inside of a cake to the Cannes film festival in order for it to not be censored by the Iranian government. It deserves to be seen, along with all of the other films made by and about these people.
- "Sexualization & Sexism - Gender in Media" - “Miss Representation” and "The Mask You Live In" are just two of 41 films that attempt to uncover the cultural norms of gender expectations.
- "Classic and Contemporary Comedy" - Netflix is great for many things, but one aspect of film that they are sorely missing is that of early cinema. That is why it’s nice to see such films like “The Great Dictator” and other silent comedies that give light to that era.
- "Another major inclusion in the Kanopy site is the Criterion on Collection. When it comes to the elite of the elite films, you can look no further than Criterion. Starting in 1984, this collection is “a continuing series of important classic and contemporary films” that are preserved and remastered for the sake future viewings. Kanopy is streaming 419 films from the collection, with films from master filmmakers like Ingmar Bergman (“The Seventh Seal”), Akira Kurosawa (“Seven Samurai”), Charlie Chaplin (“Modern Times”), Federico Fellini (“La Strada”), Jean-Luc Godard (“Weekend”), John Ford (“Stagecoach”), David Cronenberg (“Scanners”), and endless others. If you haven’t seen their works, it’s not too late to be left Breathless from the 400 Blows the film The Great Beauty lands on you in 8 1/2 minutes.

The history of film is the history of the world and a look to the future. It allows one to travel through time and space from the comfort of a bed. We must take advantage of the great opportunity it provides us while we still can.

But of course, do your homework first.

You can access Kanopy online through the library.udayton.edu website. Under the databases click “K” to find a direct link to the site.

Talented UD students show their work in Horvath exhibition

HILLARY HUNT
First Year, Communication

The Annual Horvath Art Exhibition, run by the Department of Art and Design, was in full swing this March. Located in the gallery on the second floor of Fitz Hall, students presented their artwork for recognition of outstanding achievement. This event has been a tradition for the department since 1975, with an array of award winning artwork ranging from sculptures, photography, ceramics, and paintings.

Students who submitted work will be judged by,Nick Stamas, a local, well-known artist, who gives 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and Honorable Mention awards. A reception is hosted by the department as the closing event of the University’s Stander Symposium.

The theme of this year’s exhibition was Realism, but students were encouraged to submit whatever they were most proud of, or spent the most time on. First years through seniors could submit, and everyone was encouraged to participate.

This year submitted work provided a variety of art, each with its own vision and message. The Department Chair, Judith Huaeura spoke at this year’s gallery.

“...and the willingness to contemplate on the work students submitted.
Every time I speak I want a shiver.”

- Tupac Shakur

Kaitlin Gawkins
Assistant Print Editor

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in an interfaith event at a local church as a part of my SSC 200 class. The event, which opened with mingling and food along with a 40-minute talk by two men of Native American and Islamic backgrounds, focused on bringing people together around the theme of each person’s perceptions of God and the role of religion in working for the common good.

Guy Jones, the Native American representative, was the first to speak at this event. When asked who they are and what they come from, Jones explained that a Native American will often reply with the phrase roughly translated to be “I am the one whose skin is like the stars”.

This phrase is primarily used to explain how deeply rooted the Native American people are in the earth. Jones emphasized that one of the greatest beliefs of his people is that we need to look to creation (to the sun, moon, stars, and land) to find the meaning and purpose of life and how to live it. To him, creation does not only represent humanity, it is humanity.

As is the tradition of his people, Jones used a story to illustrate this principal. This story gave insight into the spirituality of the Native Americans that is rooted in nature and word of mouth, as there is no written sacred text for these people. All knowledge and wisdom is gained by existing in and being a part of God’s creation, which comes from our first love, our mother.

Next to speak at the event was Saeed. In the opening of his talk, Saeed explained the roots of the Islamic faith, the faith in which he was raised and currently practices.

Saeed then went on to explain some of the major basic principles of Islam. The first and most important belief, in his understanding, is that there is no deity except the one true God, and anything you can subject your imagination to is definitely not that God, for we are too limited in our thinking to ever know God fully or understand Him.

The second most important belief, according to Saeed, is in the rejection of all things besides God in the world. Thus, Islam is half a rejection of all other things besides God, and half a recognition that we can never fully know or find God as human.

Saeed explained how, upon first glance, the belief that we can never fully know God/ know if we are correct in our religions is discouraging. However, he explained that it just means we need to keep searching.

Thus, there is no end, only ways to keep getting closer and closer to the truth. In this ever expanding search for God, Saeed explained that a common saying in Islam is “God is closer to you than your own vein”. Thus, the word Allah is used to name God, for the world is neither masculine or feminine, not singular or plural, and is all encompassing.

After the two talks, when the attendees were able to sit down and talk about not only the two speakers, but also, their own perceptions of God, many more opinions and faith traditions were delved into.

In this small discussion, it was brought up that overall, in each religion, each person is like the blind person with the elephant; we can all feel a piece of it, but we must come together to form the full picture which all fits together in community and collaboration.

This statement led to a talk about the importance of interfaith discussions and dialogue in our daily lives. It was emphasized that if this image is the correct way to think about faith, we should not only want to collaborate and talk with other religions, we must.

The importance of an open mind in the discussion of faith traditions was highlighted among these many different faith experts for one common belief: none of us can truly know we are correct in our perception of faith/religion, but we come closest to full understanding when we work together in community to begin to understand our world and work towards the common good together.
Is Kendrick Lamar perfect? Can he ever do wrong?

PETER KOLB  
Opinions Editor

Kendrick dropped another song two weeks ago. “The Heart Part 4.” Dropped out of nowhere, mostly. It’s his most recent new material since the 2015 half—album half—looser compilation “untitled unmastered.”

I don’t know what to expect from new Kendrick anymore. I really don’t. I don’t know if it’ll be a banger. If it’ll be a call to social justice. If it’ll be a personal story of his Compton roots, I really don’t know. The only thing I know to expect from new Kendrick in 2017 is that it will be — without a doubt — good.

As Kendrick’s voice wandered into “The Heart Part 4” I wondered: is Kendrick Lamar perfect? Can this man do any wrong? Has he missed a step in his career one? For real. I’m not even a Kendrick fan, “star,” wouldn’t even break my top 5 favorite rappers. But goodness gracious, absolutely no one can touch this man.

So there’s the question. Is Kendrick Lamar perfect? Not: “is he the best rapper right now?” He is. Stop arguing. And more importantly please, God, stop comparing him to J. Cole.

I’ll attempt to answer that question through a stratified analysis and comparison of Kendrick versus other greats, using six qualities I’ve come up with that go into a perfect rapper. Warning: this is all subjective. These rankings aren’t factual or final, I’m just trying to find out if Kendrick is mortal or not so fresh. For each quality, I’ll compare Kendrick to the rapper that I believe would receive a perfect 10 in the respective category. I’ll make sense, I’ll stop explaining.

1. Voice

In my opinion, voice is the most undervalued asset a rapper has. How much does their voice pull you in, make you want to listen to what they have to say? On a scale of 1—10, I see Young Thug receiving the perfect score. His voice is charmingly unique and astonishingly flexible without drawing attention away from the music itself (compared to someone like Chance, who’s frequently annoying voice would probably get like an 8 on this scale).

Kendrick, more of the same … and more. Kendrick’s voice is unique, similar to Andre’s. It’s unusually high while still maintaining an aggressive and intimidat- ing tone. However, what Kendrick does better than anyone else — better than Andre — is playing with his voice on a consistent basis.

Kendrick on “King Kunta” sounds entirely different than Kendrick on “Institutionalized.” He bends contours and morphs it into different characters, often times within the same song. His one minute long feature on Eminem’s “Love Game” uses six different versions of Kendrick throughout the verse. That’s more than Nicki Minaj on “Monster.”

However, Kendrick has never barked like a dog on a track and turned it to a banger. Kendrick gets a 9.

2. Flow and Lyricism

These two really should be separate. But, for the sake of word conservation, I’ll smash ‘em. MF DOOM gets the 10 on this scale. DOOM’s wordplay is simply out of this world. His rhyme schemes are sporadic white catchy. Comforting while stimulating, DOOM’s lyricism and flow takes the listener for a ride while still managing to paint vivid and at times humorous images.

Kendrick is not on the level of DOOM. However, he’s up there. Similarly to his voice, Kendrick makes sure to keep listeners on their toes by introducing multiple flow switches in almost every verse he spits. Seriously, I am unable to find a song in his discography where K Dot sticks with the same flow.

It’s equally hard to find throwaway bars in any of Kendrick’s songs. Especially in his most recent work, each lyric is there for a reason. However, he just doesn’t have the wordplay of some rappers. When he does, (see “King Kunta’s” line: “but most of y’all d tram bars like you got the bottom bunk in a two—man cell”) it’s dope; but nonetheless few and far between.

Kendrick gets a respectable 8.

3. Entertainment/Likeability

How much fun is he to watch? How charismatic is his personality? Vince Staples is the gold standard. Vince’s Twitter bounces between rants about the NBA to hilariously roasting users in his “nasty— but—cool” aesthetic he’s worked so hard to cultivate through his career. He’s also lead the fight for “more representation of dinosaurs in hip—hop”.

Kendrick, very similar, Kendrick makes all the right enemies and all the right friends. He’s humble, kind, and caring through interviews to songs. Kendrick manages to be simultaneously brash while funny while charismatic (see “Badstreet Freestyles” chorus).

As far as public antics go, though, Kendrick is pretty low—key. Not as outspoken and fun to watch as Vince or someone like Kanye. He goes to NBA games sometimes. Oh, one time he crashed a random wedding and walked around the dance floor just dabbing everywhere. Which, by the way, his dancing is about as cute and funny as Chance or Gambino which really saves his ranking here.

One recent trend is the mainstream spotlight, as Kendrick was after “good kid, m.A.A.d city” that they encounter a serious dilemma. How do you transition into this spotlight while still remaining true to who you are and what you want to say.

“To Pimp a Butterfly” is how TAPB is Kendrick’s most important album. It speaks on race relations without being preachy or naive in a time that America when needed it most. And now, the man could potentially put out his third straight classic. Proph.

Each album carries a different sound. TAPAB’s heavy jazz influence contrasts the strong west coast vibes from “good kid, m.A.A.d city” and “To Pimp a Butterfly”.

Kanye in the 10. “Graduation” is a different genre of music than “808’s & Heartbreaks”. “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy”, different genre than Yeusus. Like ‘em or not, Kanye reinsvents himself with each album he puts out.

“I think the most impressive thing about Kendrick’s evolution as an artist is how much it makes sense. Kendrick cul- tivated his name and reputation before dropping the two of the most important rap albums of the 21st century: “good kid, m.A.A.d city” and “To Pimp a Butterfly”.

Kendrick knew in order for his message to get the audience it deserved, he needed to wait. It’s one of those things that makes you scratch your head and think huh I wonder if Kendrick Lamar ever forgets his laundry is in the dryer. I won- der if he ever sends a text to a girl with a much too ambitious emoji and freaks out about it for the rest of the day. Or is he just sort of perfect… everywhere. Like his discography is.

See once rappers are thrust into the mainstream spotlight, as Kendrick was after “good kid, m.A.A.d city” they encounter a seri- ous dilemma. How do you transition into this spotlight while still remaining true to who you are and what you want to say.

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Each album carries a different sound. TAPAB’s heavy jazz influence contrasts the strong west coast vibes from “good kid, m.A.A.d city”.

Kendrick’s gets a respectable 8.

4. Storytelling

Lot of old—time GOATs you could choose for the perfect 10 for this one. Nas, Slick Rick, DMX, Tribe. But for me, I think of Biggie when I think of story- telling in hip—hop. Biggie told stories that flowed so naturally you felt you were right there with him.

Kendrick is just as good. He needs to do it more, but he’s just as good at story- telling. Kendrick tells parables. “The Art of Peer Pressure,” “How Much a Dollar Cost,” “Keisha’s Song,” “Sing About Me.” Proph…

Kendrick gets an 10 for storytelling.

5. Evolution

Rappers need to evolve with every piece of work they put out. If not, they can quickly fall into deep obscurity. Ask Ferty Wap.

Kanye is the 10. “Graduation” is a differ- ent genre of music than “808’s & Heartbreaks”. “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy”, different genre than Yeusus. Like ‘em or not, Kanye reinsvents himself with each album he puts out.

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Kendrick’s gets a respectable 8.

6. Importance

Rap is important. It has been the fore- front of several large, significant move- ments across the globe. In my opinion, the “perfect” rapper has to contribute to this in some way. Perfect example would be Tupac Shakur. Pac, like Kendrick, alt- ernative and unique personal experiences with socially focused calls towards justice. Pac will forever go down as one of the most important figures in hip—hop, if not American culture as a whole.

But — oh dear get the pitchforks ready — Kendrick is better. Kendrick picks up where Pac left off and brings it to the era of Twitter memes and Fox and Friends hosts that are stuck in the 19th century.

He tackles issues of social justice with such a mature, multi—faceted perspective. I really hope everyone reading this gives To Pimp a Butterfly a genuine, close listen.

He’s not accusatory, he’s construc- tive. It’s focused on identifying and un- derstanding problems in America before trying to solve them. Listen to “Blacker the Berry”.

When Kendrick puts out a song, when he performs at an award show, when he releases a music video, it’s never for him. It’s for people, it’s for progress. This is what makes Kendrick an instant legend.

He’s saving the culture while getting money off Taylor Swift features. Kendrick gets an 12 for importance.

Kendrick’s final score: 56/60.

Unfortunately, through my official, rigorous evaluation method, it has been proved Kendrick is indeed imperfect. Fortunately, I got a good excuse to listen to a bunch of Kendrick and gush about what a god he is.

Also, in the time since I wrote this he dropped his new track “HUMBLE.”. Which, again, I don’t know. It’s just not fair what he’s doing.

Photo courtesy of Huffington Post
Chapter 1: Introduction to Drug Epidemic

Chapter 2: Understanding the Demand and Supply Dynamics

Chapter 3: The Consequences of Drug Abuse

Chapter 4: Policy and Legal Implications

Chapter 5: Public Health Approaches

Chapter 6: International Perspectives

Chapter 7: Future Directions and Conclusion
The Dayton women’s basketball team ended its season earlier than it would have liked with a loss to Tennessee in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Despite its disappointing ending, this past season was excellent for the Flyers. Not only did they exceed expectations with rookie coach Shauna Green at the helm, but their play gave us a glimpse of the raw talent and team chemistry that has potential to lead them to success in the coming years.

Dayton will be graduating four seniors in May, including 6-foot-5 center Saicha Grant-Allen, and guard Kelly Austria, arguably their best player over the past couple years, both of whom were integral parts of the team’s recent success. However, the future looks bright with the likes of junior Jenna Burdette and freshman Jayla Scaife, among others, coming through the ranks.

Burdette has already been a regular, starting at guard for the Flyers, and the expectation is that she will step up and play a bigger role for the team next season, especially without fellow guard Kelly Austria on the court with her.

Burdette said, “Our seniors did a really good job of leading us this year, as well as helping me to understand what I need to do next year. I need to be more vocal and lead by example, not just by saying the right things, but also by doing the right things.”

Green also commented on the new role that Burdette will be playing for the team next year, “She’s going to have an added leadership role. She’s our point guard and a huge key to us and she’s really going to have to step up from a leadership standpoint, and we’ll continue to develop her. And also as a player we’re going to ask her to score; she [will] have to do a lot, and she knows that, and that’s the type of kid she is. She wants that. We’re going to need her on all ends to be playing at her best next year.”

We shouldn’t be too quick to think that Burdette is simply going to replace Austria, or that a new recruit will just replace Grant-Allen and be the same as her.

Green articulated that that just isn’t how basketball works, “Every year is different. You don’t just replace [players]. Saicha being 6’4” and super athletic and what she developed into as a senior; you don’t just replace that. We don’t have anyone coming in that’s her size, but we’ll adjust. People will have different roles.”

Three starters from this year’s team will be coming back next year, but that still leaves two big holes to fill, and Burdette simply can’t do it all on her own. Thankfully the younger talent has a lot of potential to step up and play some new or different roles that Green alluded to.

Burdette spoke about the younger talent, but was reluctant to name anyone specifically. Instead she said, “Our freshman this year were really good and look really promising.”

One of those freshmen is Jayla Scaife. Although not a starter this year, she saw a decent amount of playing time and showed talent, confidence, and potential.

In an interview with Flyer News, when asked if she expects to take on a bigger role in the coming season, she said, “I know a couple of times coach said she would like me to take on a different role or bigger role for next year, but she wants all the freshman to take a bigger role. We all kind of have to step it up.”

The moral of the story is that “like-for-like” replacements just don’t exist in basketball. Each player is different from the next and can bring her own set of skills to the court to benefit the team, usually in a different way than her predecessor.

Success next season won’t come from Dayton recruiting a new Saicha Grant-Allen and another Kelly Austria. It won’t come from current players trying to be Austria or Grant-Allen. Success will be built on team chemistry, which will stem from players working with Green and each other to branch out of their comfort zones and take on new roles that will most benefit the team.

The offseason will be filled with growth and learning, but that does not mean that next season will be a rebuilding year. Rather, it will be a year of regrouping to take this year’s success even further.
Don't tell the Dayton women's basketball team that they can't win. Because if they've learned anything in the last three years, it's that even if David cannot beat Goliath, he can at least learn from him.

Take their last two NCAA Tournament appearances. In 2015, the Flyers knocked off Iowa State, Kentucky and Louisville on their way to an Elite Eight loss to Connecticut that had the Huskies sweating at halftime.

This year, the Flyers were seeded 12th and lost a first round contest to Tennessee, the SEC's longtime stronghold.

With three wins and two losses in their last two tournaments, the Flyers are by no means on the forefront of national competition. But what's worth noting is that those two losses were to the two most successful programs in the history of college basketball. And the Flyers do not shy away from tall tasks.

“The common factor is just the belief and the confidence,” head coach Shauna Green said in an interview with Flyer News, comparing 2015 to 2017. “We were playing so well this year in the A-10 tournament going into the NCAA Tournament, and we had such a strong confidence about us and this togetherness about us. And I really felt we could beat anyone that we played.”

According to Green, if it weren’t for some sour luck, an upset may have been in order this year.

“Unfortunately against Tennessee, we didn’t shoot it well,” she said. “We played hard, we played it well, but shots that we normally hit weren’t falling...[If] we hit some shots I think we’re right in that game. We [lost] by nine and we shot 20 percent from three.”

The mentality was the same in 2015, despite vastly different talent on the court.

That year, Green served as an assistant coach under Jim Jabir, and mentored two of UD’s best all-time players, Andrea Hoover and Ally Malott, to an Elite Eight run.

“That was a different team, and a different circumstance,” said Green. “You had Hoover, Ally, they were seniors, and they had made the tournament the years before and had either won one game, or we got beat. So that was their fourth go-around, and they really wanted to get out of that first weekend.”

Junior point guard Jenna Burdette was a freshman on the Elite Eight squad, and compared her personal mentality to 2015.

“That year, there was always just this feeling that we knew we were going to win. And the ball was just going our way,” Burdette said. “This year we did take it one step at a time, which was good, and we’re going to continue to do it like that.”

While there were different circumstances surrounding those two seasons, there was a similar will to win that had to be instilled. This year, that happened after the team stumbled out of the gate with a 3-6 start to the season.

“We had a turning point right around Christmas break,” said Burdette. “We [basically] lit a fire under ourselves. We were just so excited to make it to the tournament.”

That fire fueled the team to an 11-game win streak and conference championships in both the regular season and A-10 tournament.

Conference championships will always be a goal for UD, but they do not want the success to culminate at that level. Just like in 2015, deep tournament runs are coveted.

Despite their two most recent losses, the experience of playing against the nation’s top talent is invaluable to the Flyers.

“It helps us not to look at the name of the school and more just that it’s just a basketball game,” said Burdette. “My freshman year I was obviously super nervous. I was nervous this year too, but I knew what to expect. You don’t go in there star struck because of their head coach’s name or something.”

To this end, before he resigned, Jabir built one of the toughest non-conference schedules UD had ever seen. This year, they played the likes of UConn, the nation’s top-seeded team, Texas A&M, Georgia Tech, Virginia and Wisconsin in the regular season.

“I think that’s what the program’s developed into, and I think people respect us in that regard,” Green said. “Our non-conference schedule has prepared us. When you beat Texas A&M and you’re playing those guys, you have opportunities to get big wins. I think that our kids are used to it now and it’s not like ‘oh, we’re playing Tennessee’ or ‘oh, we’re playing Texas A&M,’ that’s what they’re used to. And I think that’s developed over time, so I don’t think they get rattled with that.”
MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Fifth Third Field a gem in the Gem City

STEVE MILLER
Sports Editor

The Boston Red Sox. The Duke Blue Devils. The Washington Redskins. And the Dayton Dragons?

In 2007, Sports Illustrated listed the “Top 10 Hottest Tickets in Sports,” and Dayton’s Class A Minor League Baseball team earned a spot at number 10 among the aforementioned juggernauts of American sports.

Fifth Third Field, the downtown home of the Dayton Dragons, has put the Gem City on the map of America’s sporting world since it opened in 2000. Now at 1,188 consecutive games, Fifth Third Field has sold out every Dragons game it’s ever hosted—a sports sellout record for North America.

That distinction was achieved as much by the ballpark’s pristine architecture as by the dedication of the people within it.

Dayton’s premiere sports venue features, 7,320 fixed seats as well as a grass berm in the outfield, which raises the seating capacity around 8,200. Built in the eastern part of downtown, dated industrial buildings still loom above the rustic architecture of the relatively-new ballpark.

This charm flavors a night of Dragons baseball as well as any on-field performance, and helps Fifth Third Field rise above its competitors elsewhere in the Midwest League.

Juxtaposed to the vintage, Rust Belt feel of the surroundings, though, are some of professional baseball’s most state-of-the-art features.

Notably, a seven-story tall LED scoreboard above the left field wall draws in fans to replays, statistics and animations. Installed in 2014, the scoreboard placed Fifth Third Field on the front line of ballpark technology.

“At the time it was the clearest and largest video board in single-A baseball history,” said Tom Nichols, director of media relations and baseball history, “and Dayton’s Class A Minor League Baseball team earned a spot in the Top 10 Hottest Tickets in Sports.”

The physical features of Fifth Third Field speak for themselves, but the staff within hold high values of customer service and community loyalty in order to further the positive experience for the patrons.

“Emphasis on family entertainment would be at the top of the list,” Nichols said. “It’s sort of aimed at that Disney style of production. We want everyone that comes in here to feel like they’re in a first class, first-rate event.”

He made an example of the Green Team, the Dragons’ in-game entertainment facilitators, to showcase dedication to the family environment.

“If you were to walk in the ballpark at 5:00 for a 7:00 game, you’d literally see that group of 15 or so rehearsing the skits and the sing-a-longs and the contests that they are going to do that night,” said Nichols. “Each night they get on the field for an hour or so and run through all that.”

Jessie McLaughlin, a junior pre-physical therapy major at UD, grew up in Dayton and reveled in the entertaining atmosphere of the ballpark.

“My dad used to take me and my sister,” she said. “I liked going because they would always shoot off fireworks [in the outfield] at the end of the game if the Dragons won.”

Beyond family entertainment, Nichols said, “We really, really emphasize here what we call unsurpassed customer service.”

The focus on customer service ranges from simple duties like keeping the休息 rooms as clean at the end of the game as they are at the beginning to long-term examples of employees going above and beyond to take care of Fifth Third Field’s patrons.

“A few years back, we had a season ticket holder who got to a point where she got a little older,” Nichols explained. “It became harder and harder for her to park her car and then walk from wherever she parked her car to the game. And she told her [season ticket plan representative] about that problem. And without telling anyone, he made a deal with her that he would let her call him on his cell phone when she pulled up, and he would come out and actually get her car, park her car, and walk back.”

And the ballpark’s customer service, it turns out, is just the groundwork for the Dragons’ community involvement. They partner with local schools, businesses, churches, the military and more to help hard-working citizens enjoy a night at the ballpark.

“You can’t just run a baseball team, you have to stay connected with the community,” Nichols said. “We have something called a Classroom MVP program where players go out to classrooms and speak to fourth and fifth grade classes. Each class that’s involved in the program selects a Classroom MVP and that child and his or her family comes to the game and gets a VIP treatment at the ballpark. And that’s literally thousands of classes around the Miami Valley.”

Fans have noticed the Dragons’ dedication to Dayton, clearly, and have responded by buying out 1,188 straight games. But the ballpark has also been commended by the players who have spent time on the Dragons, 80 of whom have reached the Major Leagues in the past 17 seasons, according to Nichols.

In 2012, Minor League Baseball conducted a poll asking players to rank their favorite Minor League cities to visit on a road trip. Dayton was ranked first, winning the top spot from 9% of all players surveyed.

Nostalgia for Dayton runs deep even among the players who have made the Major Leagues. Joey Votto, the Cincinnati Reds’ 2010 National League MVP, is quoted on a wall inside Fifth Third Field.

“Fifth Third Field, in Dayton Ohio, is one of the most special places for baseball in all the minor leagues and maybe even all of professional baseball,” the wall reads. “I enjoyed it here back in 2009. I come back here today and I’ve received nothing but support and appreciation. Dayton has a fantastic fan base.”

Be it Minor Leaguers grinding their way through the ranks of professional baseball, Cincinnati’s Major Leaguers returning on injury rehab or season ticket holders watching from the seats, countless people have flocked to Fifth Third Field in the last 17 years to contribute to its designation as one of the hottest destinations in sports.

Why not etch your own name in that story? The Dragons open up their 2017 season on April 6, and have 12 home games throughout April. See for yourself how the Dragons and Fifth Third Field serve the city of Dayton and all of professional baseball.